We are entering a season in which many of us are beginning to think about gifts and gift giving. What is an appropriate gift? To whom should we give one? How best to receive a gift offered to us? The list of questions could go on.

Garrison Keillor, host of The Prairie Home Companion, once said this about a gift: “A book is a gift you can open again and again.” He went on to say: “One only reads books in order to gain the privilege of living more than one life.”

Those comments ring true when I think of CALL’s curricular offerings, extended trips, Passport to Adventure, Noontime Series lectures, and so many of its other activities. We are invited to travel to parts unknown, to past historical eras we have often wished to experience, to dialog and interact with ideas and practices at times foreign to us. I think of it as opening a gift, exploring its possibilities, and hopefully enjoying the adventure and journey in the process.

But a gift also has to be prepared. Since I am liaison to the Curriculum Committee, let me tell you a bit about the design of the curriculum. I have little new to tell you about the public face of the curriculum, the list of 50-60 courses you see published in the CALL curriculum guide, faithfully drafted for so many years by Gordon Kamps.

However, there is also a more private, hidden side to the work involved in constructing the curriculum: A story about which “the half has not been told.” After listening to CALL members’ suggestions, our own ideas generated at brainstorming sessions, and after many email exchanges, the Curriculum Committee (15 members by last count under the leadership of Uko Zylstra) wants to provide courses that have the following characteristics:

- Courses that are led by instructors who are good classroom teachers
- Courses that display an attractive and diverse array of subjects.
- Courses that are competently administered.

This last item gives me an opportunity to thank our CALL administrative staff, Sonja De Jong and Marjo Jordan, for being so helpful and supportive in making it possible for CALL members to open the gift crafted by the Curriculum Committee. As the Curriculum Committee wraps up its final selection of courses for the spring term, it is our sincere hope that our gift will evoke excitement, much like a Christmas morning from many years before.

Arie Leegwater
Secretary
Passport to Adventure

Thursday, February 12, 2015, 7:00 PM
China Rising
w/ Dale Johnson

In 2013, more cars were sold in China than in the USA, illustrating the rising middle class in a surging economy. In this film, Dale Johnson visits the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, the Great Wall, and the Terra Cotta soldiers, and rides the high speed bullet train to Shanghai. See the Yarlung Tsangpo Canyon, ultra-modern cities, and huge private farming operations with giant tractors.

Order online at www.calvin.edu/boxoffice or call 526-6282. Ticket price is $6 each.

Free lectures at noon in the Chapel (from the Burton St. entrance)

Spring line-up includes the Palestinian Refugee Plight, Abraham Kuyper and Garden Sculptures.

Look for more details in January.

Lectures will run February 12-April 23

Spring Classes 2015

Catalog mailing and registration mid-January

1st Session: February 9 - March 20
2nd Session: March 23 - May 1

Includes many new course offerings including Plagues, Humor, World War I, and Clay Art

Email the office with any temporary winter address as the catalogs will not forward
Collingsworth Christmas Concert – Thursday, December 11, 7:00

Covenant Fine Arts Center-Tickets are still available for this traditional southern gospel family. Tickets are $20 and can be ordered online or through the box office at 526-6282 or www.calvin.edu/boxoffice. Thank you to the many who have already ordered tickets. We look forward to hearing this accomplished musical family warm our hearts with moving and inspiring Christmas music.

Collingsworth Christmas Concert

Pagan

Campus Store Christmas Sale for CALL Members!

Shop the Campus Store between Nov 1 & Dec 23 for these special deals:

- 15% off of all Fair Trade
- Additional 15% on the 25% off sale price of boxed Christmas cards and books

Dec 6 – Special giveaways, free gift bagging & refreshments

Show your CALL Membership badge for your discount!

Bookstore hrs:
8 – 5   M/W/F
8 – 7   Tu/Th
10 – 2 Sat

Collingsworth Christmas Concert

Did you know that Calvin College donates classroom and office space to CALL at no charge? CALL often looks for ways to show their appreciation back to the college for their generosity and support of our older learning program. It is for this reason that we need your input! Do you know any high school juniors or seniors that would be a good fit at Calvin College but may or may not be looking at Calvin for college? Provide us with a name and address, and the Admissions Office will partner with you in telling that student about Calvin.

Tell us about your high school-aged grandchildren, energetic members of the high school youth group at your church, and other family or friends who you think should have Calvin on their list of schools to consider.

Go to www.calvin.edu/go/recommend or fill out this form and drop it off at the CALL office or the Admissions front desk (Spoelhof Center Atrium). Use the comment section to note you are CALL member as we strive for 100 recommendations from our program!

Student First Name: _______________________ Last Name: __________________________

 Gender: Male Female

Address: __________________________________________________________________________

Phone: ___________________ High School: ___________________________________________ Graduation Year______

Academic Interests: __________________________________________________________________________________________

Your Contact Information Name: __________________________________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________________________________

Phone: ____________________________________ Email: _____________________________________________________
**Freedom Tour of South Africa:**

**John Apol, Sept. 9-21, 2015**

Focusing on the life and works of Nelson Mandela, learn about the political changes that occurred within South Africa with the end of apartheid. This tour will take us to Johannesburg and Cape Town, on game drives in Addo Elephant National Park, along the Garden Route (a road famous for its beauty and biodiversity), and through a country with constantly changing landscapes, many races, cultures and languages. Sign-ups begin in November.

Your host will be John Apol, a CALL member, a Calvin alumnus and frequent traveler to South Africa. He has led four student interim tours and the 2012 CALL and CCAA South Africa tour. For more information about the tour, contact John at johnapol07@gmail.com or 616-243-8600.

Any available brochures for travel opportunities can be found on the CALL and Calvin College Alumni websites

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**Norway and Sweden:**

**Debra Freeberg, June 16-26, 2015**

Two openings are available to enjoy the art, architecture and daily life of Stockholm, the enchanted capital of Sweden, the fascinating Swedish countryside, Carl Larsson’s home, the spectacular Norwegian fjords, Bergen and the music of Edvard Grieg!

Norway and Sweden

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Are you ready for a trip? Nothing can replace the unique experiences traveling offers. The new trips coming soon in 2015 and 2016 include Peru, Israel, England Cathedrals, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Northern Rockies of Yellowstone, Tetons and Glacier National Park.
Wednesday, December 17
Christmas Luncheon
Bring your friends and enjoy Christmas inspiration at our annual CALL Christmas Luncheon. Kathi Edwards, certified sign language interpreter, will dramatize Christmas songs in an inspirational and moving presentation that will make Christmas come alive. She will conclude with a powerful presentation of *How Great Thou Art*. Come and enjoy this heartwarming experience. The luncheon will be in the Calvin Commons Annex Lecture Hall.

**Cost - $18.00**

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Monday, January 26
January Series Brunch
With Dr. Paul Marshall
"The Global Assault on Christians"

According to the Pew Research Center, Newsweek, and The Economist among others, Christians are the world’s most widely persecuted religious group and yet many Westerners are unaware that so many followers of Christ live under governments and among people who are often openly hostile to their faith. They think martyrdom became a rarity a long time ago.

Dr. Marshall will offer a glimpse at the modern-day life of Christians worldwide and provide insight on the global pattern of increasing violence.

Dr. Marshall is highly qualified on this subject. He is a senior fellow at the Hudson Institute’s Center for Religious Freedom in Washington DC; a distinguished senior fellow at the Institute for the study of Religion at Baylor University; a senior fellow at the Leimens Institute; and visiting fellow at the graduate school of the State Islamic University. He is the author of twenty books on religion, politics, and religious freedom.

**Cost - $18.00** Includes brunch, busing to CFAC and reserved seating.

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Tuesday, May 12, 2015
Purdue Varsity Men’s Glee Club

This trip is outstanding and we are including it again this year by popular demand. The Glee Club is a widely acclaimed musical group that has inspired audiences on nine European tours and has performed at five presidential inaugurations. This dynamic musical troupe employs a versatile repertoire including gospel, classical choir selections, familiar opera choruses and much more. They utilize small groups and outstanding soloists to further enhance their performance. We will have lunch at the center, where a glee club member(s) will be at each table to talk about the history and rules of the Glee club.

Plan now to attend this popular musical performance.

**Cost - $95.00** Includes deluxe motor coach, coffee and rolls, lunch and the concert. This is a CALL favorite. Make your reservation today!

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### Member Events / Interest Group Registration

Two ways to register:

1. **Online:** [www.calvin.edu/CALL](http://www.calvin.edu/CALL) > Member Events
2. Complete this form, make checks available to CALL and send to:
   
   CALL Youngsma Center, 3201 Burton St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

**Event fees are per person**

- Dec 17 Christmas Luncheon $18
- Jan 26 January Series Brunch $18
- May 12 Purdue Varsity Men’s Glee $95

Please fill in the name(s), phone, and email from the appropriate group:

Name(s): ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________

May we confirm this registration by email?  

- Yes
- No, I don’t use email

Contact Shirley with questions: 299-3584 or ministrysl@yahoo.com. Our cancellation policy is posted on CALL website.

If an event has filled, we will notify you.
CALL has received suggestions this fall on additional interest groups. The office staff will coordinate interest, advertise information, and facilitate classroom space if needed. The following is a list of new groups that can be formed. If you wish to participate in any of these, email your interest to call@calvin.edu and we will keep you informed if enough interest has been received to move forward.

The following are potential new interest groups:
Scrabble...Habitat for Humanity... Monthly Restaurant Group... Monthly Movie Group... and Spiritual Formation Small Group